

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (Currently amended): A point switching device that is provided at a diverging point on tracks on which a movable body travels, comprising:

a point adapted to move between a first position and a second position by rotating about a support point on one end thereof;

a first coil for generating an induction field to drive the point to the first position;

a second coil for generating an induction field to drive the point to the second position; and

an excitation control unit operable for selecting one of the first coil or the second coil and for supplying an intermittent exciting current to the selected coil for driving the point to the first position or the second position, respectively, wherein:

the excitation control unit operates to continue to supply the intermittent exciting current to the selected coil until the other one of the first coil or the second coil is selectedselectively supplying an intermittent exciting current to the first coil or the second coil.

Claim 2 (Currently amended): The point switching device according to claim 1, further comprising:

an electricity supply unit, having a battery as a source of electricity, for supplying electricity for operating the excitation control unitto the first coil and the second coil.

Claim 3 (Previously presented): The point switching device according to claim 1, further comprising:

a point position display unit for displaying on the tracks whether the point is located in the first position or the second position.

Claim 4 (New): The point switching device according to claim 1, wherein the excitation control unit is configured to supply the intermittent exciting current by repeatedly executing the steps of:

supplying an exciting current for a first predetermined period of time, and

removing the exciting current for a second predetermined period of time.

Claim 5 (New): The point switching device according to claim 4, wherein the second predetermined period of time is greater than the first predetermined period of time.